

Application No.: 09/700,625

Attorney Docket No.: DALHO1290-1

Filing Date: February 1, 2001

(028614-1102)

Response to Office Action (mailed September 10, 2003, Paper No. 27) faxed March 10, 2004

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Amendments to the Claims

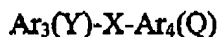
Please amend claims 42, 44 and 49-52 as indicated in the listing of claims presented below. Please cancel claims 26 and 72 without prejudice.

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-36. (Cancelled).

37. (Previously presented) A composition for local administration comprising a second or third generation antidepressant that is not a 5-HT₂ receptor antagonist, and a vehicle suitable for local administration, wherein the second or third generation antidepressant has a structure:



wherein:

Ar₃ is a substituted N-containing heterocyclic ring,

Y is either an aryl group fused to the heterocyclic ring, or one or two substituents selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkyloxy, arylalkyl, arylalkyloxy, aryl, heteroaryl substituents, and combinations thereof comprising a total of about 4 to 8 carbons attached to Ar₃,

X is an alkyl group comprising 2 to 5 carbon atoms linking Ar₃ and Ar₄,

Ar₄ is a piperazine attached to X by a first nitrogen atom of Ar₄, and

Q is a benzene ring optionally substituted with a biocompatible halogen and attached to Ar₄ at a second nitrogen atom of Ar₄.

38. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 37 wherein the X is an alkyl group containing 3 carbons.

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39. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 37 wherein Ar_3 is a 1,2,4-triazole substituted at the 4 position with the arylalkoxy substituent containing 6 to 8 carbon atoms.

40. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 39 wherein the heteroarylalkyl substituent contains an oxygen atom.

41. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 37 wherein the benzene ring is substituted with a halogen selected from the group consisting of chlorine, bromine, and fluorine.

42. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 26 further comprising an inert carrier.

43. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 42 wherein the inert carrier is selected from the group consisting of water, isopropyl alcohol, gaseous fluorocarbons, ethyl alcohol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, propylene glycol, a fragrance, a gel-producing material, stearyl alcohol, stearic acid, spermaceti, sorbitan monooleate, methylcellulose, and suitable combinations of any two or more thereof.

44. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 37 26 wherein the composition further comprises a penetration enhancing agent.

45.-48. (Cancelled).

49. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 37 26 in a formulation selected from the group consisting of a cream, a lotion, a gel, an ointment, a spray, a patch, a polymer stabilized crystal, and an aerosol.

50. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 26 further comprising a neutralizing agent.

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51. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 37 ~~26~~ wherein the composition is formulated for local injection.

52. (Currently amended) The composition according to claim 37 ~~26~~ wherein the antidepressant is encapsulated in a slow release delivery vehicle.

53. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 52 wherein the delivery vehicle is selected from the group consisting of a liposome, a microcapsule, and a polymer stabilized crystal.

54.-72. (Cancelled).

73. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 37, wherein the concentration of second or third generation antidepressant in said composition falls in the range of about 0.5 up to 10 wt %.

74. (Previously presented) A composition for topical administration comprising:
a second or third generation antidepressant, and
a vehicle suitable for topical administration,
wherein the second or third generation antidepressant is selected from the group consisting of maprotiline, bupropion, and reboxetine, and
wherein said vehicle is selected from the group consisting of a cream, a lotion, a gel, an ointment, a spray, a patch, a polymer stabilized crystal, and an aerosol.

75. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 74, wherein the composition further comprises a penetration enhancing agent.

76. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 74, wherein the composition further comprises a neutralizing agent.

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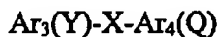
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77. (Previously presented) A composition for topical administration comprising:
a second or third generation antidepressant, and
a vehicle suitable for topical administration,
wherein the second or third generation antidepressant is selected from the group
consisting of maprotiline, bupropion, and reboxetine, and
wherein said vehicle is a slow release delivery vehicle.

78. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 77, wherein the slow release
delivery vehicle is selected from the group consisting of a liposome, a microcapsule, and a
polymer stabilized crystal.

79. (Previously presented) A composition for topical administration comprising a
second or third generation antidepressant that is not a 5-HT₂ receptor antagonist, and a vehicle
suitable for topical administration, wherein the second or third generation antidepressant has a
structure:



wherein:

Ar₃ is a substituted N-containing heterocyclic ring,

Y is either an aryl group fused to the heterocyclic ring, or one or two substituents
selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkyloxy, arylalkyl, arylalkyloxy, aryl,
heteroaryl substituents, and combinations thereof comprising a total of about 4 to 8
carbons attached to Ar₃,

X is an alkyl group comprising 2 to 5 carbon atoms linking Ar₃ and Ar₄,

Ar₄ is a piperazine attached to X by a first nitrogen atom of Ar₄, and

Q is a benzene ring optionally substituted with a biocompatible halogen and
attached to Ar₄ at a second nitrogen atom of Ar₄, and

wherein said vehicle is selected from the group consisting of a cream, a lotion, a gel, an
ointment, a spray, a patch, a polymer stabilized crystal, and an aerosol.

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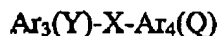
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80. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 79, wherein the composition further comprises a penetration enhancing agent.

81. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 79, wherein the composition further comprises a neutralizing agent.

82. (Previously presented) A composition for topical administration comprising a second or third generation antidepressant that is not a 5-HT₂ receptor antagonist, and a vehicle suitable for topical administration, wherein the second or third generation antidepressant has a structure:



wherein:

Ar₃ is a substituted N-containing heterocyclic ring,

Y is either an aryl group fused to the heterocyclic ring, or one or two substituents selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkyloxy, arylalkyl, arylalkyloxy, aryl, heteroaryl substituents, and combinations thereof comprising a total of about 4 to 8 carbons attached to Ar₃,

X is an alkyl group comprising 2 to 5 carbon atoms linking Ar₃ and Ar₄,

Ar₄ is a piperazine attached to X by a first nitrogen atom of Ar₄, and

Q is a benzene ring optionally substituted with a biocompatible halogen and attached to Ar₄ at a second nitrogen atom of Ar₄, and wherein said vehicle is a slow release delivery vehicle.

83. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 82, wherein the slow release delivery vehicle is selected from the group consisting of a liposome, a microcapsule, and a polymer stabilized crystal.